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Director of
Central
Intelligence

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National Intelligence Daily

Thursday
13 March 1980

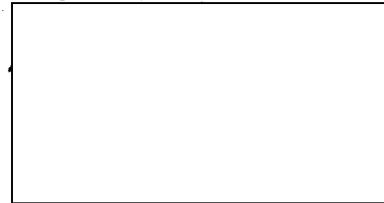
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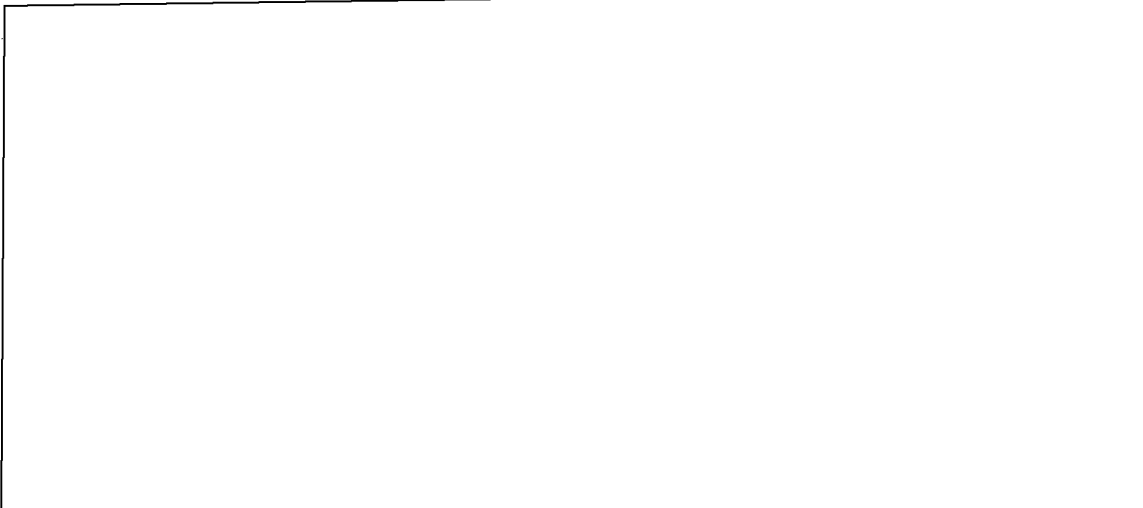


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IRAN: Sabotage Cuts Oil Production

Sabotage--including at least 10 pipeline explosions in the last week--has further reduced Iranian oil output.

[redacted] onshore output was running as low as 1.2 million barrels per day at the beginning of the week, down from the 2.2 million level of early this month. Output from offshore wells continues to run about 400,000 barrels per day. If the pipelines are repaired within 10 days, Iran should be able to meet its export commitments by drawing on large crude stocks at Khark Island.

Arab dissidents probably are responsible for the sabotage. Iran is publicly charging Iraq--which aids the dissidents--with encouraging the saboteurs.

Sabotage of pipelines feeding the Abadan oil refinery reduced the output of refined products by about 10 percent last week, [redacted] Although fuel is reported to be in short supply in the provinces, shortages in Tehran have eased in recent days.

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